

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: TEMPERATURE TRIGGER FOR COLD WEATHER PROTECTIONS [199 IAC 19.4(15), 20.4(15)]	DOCKET NO. RMU-03-10
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ORDER ALLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

(Issued October 31, 2002)

On August 6, 2003, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order commencing this rule making, identified as Docket No. RMU-03-10, in response to a petition for rule making filed by the Iowa Community Action Association (ICAA). The proposed amendments would change the temperature below which a utility could not disconnect natural gas or electric service from 20 degrees Fahrenheit to 32 degrees Fahrenheit. The "Notice of Intended Action" was published in IAB Vol. XXVI, No. 5 (9/3/03), pp. 333-35, as ARC 2725B.

Written comments were filed in this docket by Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL), MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican), Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks (Aquila), the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC), Iowa Legal Aid, the City of Wayland, and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate).

An oral presentation was held on October 28, 2003. IPL, MidAmerican, IAEC, Aquila, ICAA, and Consumer Advocate appeared and made comments or responded to Board questions.

At the oral presentation, some of the participants requested an opportunity to file additional comments in response to questions asked at the oral presentation. The Board will grant that request and give the parties the opportunity to file additional comments. The comments will be due on or before December 8, 2003, which should allow time for all interested persons to review the transcript and consider the relevant questions.

The Board also has an additional question for the parties to consider and answer:

Prior to the adoption of the current provisions in subparagraphs 19.4(15)"h"(5) and 20.4(15)"h"(6) establishing 20 degrees Fahrenheit as the temperature below which a customer cannot be disconnected, the Board rules only prohibited disconnection when the temperature was below 20 degrees for customers with broken bill payment agreements. Please comment whether your company or organization would support narrowing the provision to apply only to customers with broken payment agreements but with a 32-degree temperature trigger.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Additional comments responding to questions at the oral presentation and the additional question in this order may be filed on or before December 8, 2003.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 31st day of October, 2003.